IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 016907/1153

Applicant: Gaku TAKANO et al.

Title: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND IMAGE
PROCESSING METHOD

Appl. No.: 09/667,102

Filing Date: September 21, 2000

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Art Unit: 2852

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on a modified Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents
known to applicants in order to comply with applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to
37 C.F.R. § 1.56. A copy of each of the listed documents is being submitted to comply
with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98.

The submission herewith of any document is not intended as an admission either
that such document constitutes competent prior art against the claims of the present
application or that such document is considered to be material to patentability as
defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Applicants do not waive the right to take appropriate
action to antedate any document that does not constitute a statutory bar and that is
determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present
application, or to otherwise remove such a document as a competent reference.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37
C.F.R. § 1.97(b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No fee is
due.

RELEVANCE OF THE DOCUMENTS

Document A6 discloses an image processor that calculates 'exclusive or' of two adjoining pixels in the main scan direction, and then allocates a various point '1' a short word and codes these data.

Document A7 discloses a data compression method that first calculates 'exclusive or' of two image pixel data in input twin, and then counts '0' length, and codes them in run-length coding method.

Document A8 discloses a compression method that uses 'exclusive or' of two scan line data in front and behind in the sub-scan direction.

English translations of documents A6-A8 are not readily available; however, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted documents (37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609). English language abstracts are provided for document A6-A8.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

Respectfully submitted,

October 25, 2001
Date

for / _Phillip J. Articola_   Reg. No.
Johnny A. Kumar   38,819
Reg. No. 34,649

FOLEY & LARDNER
3000 K Street, N.W.
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20007-5109
Tel: (202) 672-5300